



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:
MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 10, 2006

Signature: *R. A. Heppermann*

(Roger A. Heppermann)

Docket No.: 06005/37170
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michael D. APEL et al.

Application No.: 09/871,115

Confirmation No.: 9797

Filed: May 31, 2001

Art Unit: 2182

For: INPUT/OUTPUT DEVICE WITH
CONFIGURATION, FAULT ISOLATION
AND REDUNDANT FAULT ASSIST
FUNCTIONALLY

Examiner: T. Q. Nguyen

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated March 10, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 23 of this paper.